

AMENDMENTS**Amendments to the Claims**

1) (Currently amended) A method for extending the effective period during which tissue treated with a clostridial neurotoxin is paralyzed comprising:

- a) contacting said tissue with a composition comprising an ~~agent~~ IGF-BP4 able to bind to an IGF-1 or an IGF-2; ~~prevent the expression of a neurotrophic polypeptide~~, and
- b) contacting said tissue with a clostridial neurotoxin; [[,]]

~~wherein neural sprouting in said treated tissue is inhibited~~ binding of said IGF-BP4 with said IGF-1 or said IGF-2 prevents said IGF-1 or said IGF-2 from activating a cell surface receptor involved in the initiation of neural sprouting, thereby extending the effective period during which tissue treated with said clostridial neurotoxin is paralyzed.

2) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein step a) occurs at the same time as said tissue is treated with said clostridial neurotoxin.

3) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein step a) occurs prior to treatment of said tissue with said clostridial neurotoxin.

4) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said clostridial neurotoxin comprises ~~BoNT~~ a botulinum neurotoxin.

5) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said ~~clostridial~~ botulinum neurotoxin comprises a BoNT/A.

6-25) (Canceled)

26) (New) The method of claim 1 wherein said IGF-BP4 comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.